

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A hydrostatic gas bearing of an orifice type comprising:
 - a gas injection port; and
 - an air groove communicating with the gas injection port,wherein a clearance (h) of the hydrostatic gas bearing is at most 3 μm , and the ratio of a depth (g) of the air groove to the clearance (h) is at least 5; and
wherein the hydrostatic gas bearing ~~uses a single restriction mechanism and~~ is made of, as a main component, at least one of silicon nitride and Sialon.

2. (Canceled)